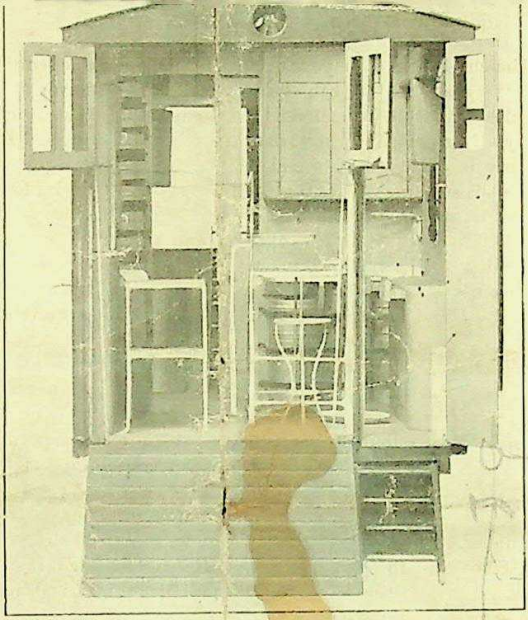

FIG. 1.—Motor operation theatre. Back view.

should be used for any case that can be removed without risk of further complications ensuing or of pain and shock.

The cost of the theatre is £1100, the chassis costing £600, the body about £200, and the electrical fitting £70 leaving £230 for stores, fittings, and instruments, a sum which need not be spent or can be exceeded.

Infirmary, Aberdeen.

The chief points in connexion with this motor operation theatre are that it can be easily taken wherever it is required, that its dimensions are reasonable, that it can carry all its personnel, and that its price is not high. The chassis is of the commercial vehicle type, 20–30 h.p., the wheel base being 11 ft. 6 in.; the body is 9 ft. 6 in. long, 6 ft. 6 in. wide; the cab is 3 ft. 6 in. long, 6 ft. 6 in. wide; the height of both is 7 ft. over all, and the weight carried, including five persons, is about 2½ tons, suitably arranged as regards steering facilities. A clear space of at least 2 ft. 9 in., and more if required, is available as a stretcher-way.

All boiling and sterilising and drying of washing is done in the cab (or partly outside the theatre) by paraffin burners. The cab is separated by a sliding door from the body of the theatre, thus eliminating phosgene gas, a most important point as regards the efficiency of the personnel. Cold sterile water is obtained in the body of the theatre either by tabloid hypochlorite in 15 minutes or by boiling the four vessels from the boiler. The storage room is 34 cubic feet, providing for, say, 60 towels, 15 gowns, wool, gauze, bandages, and instruments. In addition a minimum of 16 full-sized drums, shelves, two drum stools containing plaster of Paris, and a trolley are provided. Seven cubic feet of space are available under the operation table if required. Two 20-gallon water-tanks are carried.

Electric light can be run for six hours off accumulators. A minimum time of 15 minutes is available for recharging off the engine between operations if required. Ventilation is by windows and an electric fan, causing an indraught of filtered air. Closely fitting flanges to the windows keep out dust, and the tail board is arranged ingeniously so that the outer surface is always outside and dirt is not tipped into